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High And Northern Top EML

By MIKE DUFFY
(Times Herald Sports Writer)

It's time to revise or at least supplement that old bit about neither rain, nor sleet nor snow stopping the mailman from completing his appointed rounds.

Wednesday afternoon, all the wind, thunder, lightning and rain that Mother Nature dealt out wasn't about to stop the trackmen of Port Huron High and Port Huron Northern from making a shambles of the Eastern Michigan League track meet at East Detroit's all-weather layout.

In fact, it might as well have been another dual meet between the Huskies and Big Reds, so dominant were the two Port Huron schools.

Between them, they won 10 of the 14 events in the meet.

Port Huron, with Rob Johnson doubling in the long jump and 440-yard dash, racked up six firsts and a total of 79 points to take their third straight EML meet title.

The win goes nicely with the third consecutive dual meet title that the Big Reds nailed down just last week.

Port Huron Northern capped four first place medals and rolled up 32 points to take runner-up honors. Phil Lewis wins in both the high and low hurdles keyed the Huskies' effort.

Mc Clems, featuring shot putter Ron Gatherright's gargantuan EML record-smashing heave of 62-feet-7, totaled 48 points and finished third.

Johnson's winning leap of 22-feet-3/4 in the long jump was far off the area record effort of 22-feet-9/4, he came through with in last Friday's regional at Utica.

But in the quarter-mile it was another story as the splendid sophomore sped to a 1971 area best time of :51.9 in taking home the blue ribbon. That performance chopped over a second off the previous top mark of :52.3 held jointly by Johnson and PH Northern's Stu Wilkinson.

Other Big Red firsts were captured by Robin Diller in the mile; Tom Kreuztger in the two-mile; Dick Carrier in the 200-yard dash; and a foursome of Darryl Fennix, Chuck Russell, Carrier and Johnson in the 800-yard relay.

Though Northern's Lewis won both hurdle events, his times, :15.2 in the high and :30.2 in the low, were a half second off his season's best due to the poor weather and lack of competition.

Rick Nestle's exact winning leap in the high jump set a new Port Huron Northern school record, eclipsing by two inches the previous mark of 5-feet-10 held by four Huskies including Nestle.

The fourth Northern first was recorded by sprinter Tom Foster who flashed by arch-rivals Chuck Russell and Dick Carrier of Port Huron to take first place honors in :04.4. Russell edged teammate Carrier for the second place spot.

Before the rains came (somewhere between the mile run and the 100-yard dash), Mc Clems' Gatherright, an incredibly muscular giant who has a college football line coach's foam on the mouth, unleashed his record shattering toss which is by far the best in Michigan this spring.

In fact, the throw exceeded by nearly four feet the 38-feet-8 1/2 effort that won Gatherright the Class A state title last spring.

But as amazing as he was, Gatherright couldn't shadow the fact that it was a Port Huron-Port Huron Northern meet all the way.

From high and low — Port Huron (PH) 34, Port Huron Northern (PHN) 32, Algonac (AL) 46, East Detroit (ED) 34, Roseville (R) 16, Utica (UT) 26, Cass (CA) 10, Cassopolis (CC) 10, Port Huron (PH) 26, Roseville (R) 16, Utica (UT) 26, Cass (CA) 10, Cassopolis (CC) 10, Port Huron (PH) 26, Roseville (R) 16, Utica (UT) 26, Cass (CA) 10, Cassopolis (CC) 10.

100-yard dash—Bill Sims (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN), Steve Crawford (AL), Ron Homan (M).

200-yard dash—Ed Elig (MC), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN), Steve Crawford (AL), Ron Homan (M).

400-yard dash—Ed Elig (MC), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN), Steve Crawford (AL), Ron Homan (M).

800-yard relay—Port Huron (PH), Tom Foster (PHN), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

1600-yard relay—Port Huron (PH), Tom Foster (PHN), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

3200-yard relay—Port Huron (PH), Tom Foster (PHN), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

5000-yard relay—Port Huron (PH), Tom Foster (PHN), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

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10000-yard dash—Ed Elig (MC), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN), Steve Crawford (AL), Ron Homan (M).

1 mile—Tom Kreuztger (PH), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

2 miles—Tom Kreuztger (PH), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

5 miles—Tom Kreuztger (PH), Dick Carrier (PH), Mike Brown (R), Roy Wagner (PHN).

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TEAM STANDINGS AND KEY EVENTS

Vikings, Mariners Tied For Lead

Prep Track

Area League standings by running over the Warriors 86-31. It was the usual performers displaying their feats for Marysville, Sandy Vince, Ron Kukulka, Jim Butler, and the Porter brothers. (Chip and Dave) paced with wins.

Marysville is now looking forward to its final league meet against Algonac, while Marine City hosts Chippewa Valley. Both take place Monday.

New Haven And Bad Axe Win League Track Meets

New Haven's Rockets used their all-around blinding speed to take the Western Thumb Association League track meet Wednesday, although Memphis gave them a run for their money.

In fact, New Haven was forced to win the final two events before solidifying the win. Their winning total was 61 1/2 points while Memphis ended with 62. Next was Almost with 39.

Eli Sims, who else, captured the dashes, Charles Walton was best in the 440, Roy Lee won the long jump, and the Rockets' 800 and mile relay teams took firsts.

One of the more interesting occurrences took place in the shot put. This is the one that got away from the Rockets. On the final toss of the event, Capacs Al Stewart fired the put 34-feet-9, for first place. New Haven's Scott Belf, increased at finishing second, grabbed the put, and heaved it 52-feet-4, although it didn't count.

Rick Harwick of Caro took a pair of firsts. The Tigers' speed demon took the 100 and 200-yard dashes.

The big news of the meet, however, was Vassar's Jim Barnes.

The Vulcan senior took three first places and was named the recipient of the sixth annual Clara McDunn award.

Ublity of the Western Thumb Association used depth and a sweep in the high jump to capture the Harbor Beach Invitational Wednesday.

Host Harbor Beach was runner-up to the Bearcats 99 1/2-86.

Oven-Gage of the WTA had 29 points and Deckerville, like Harbor Beach a member of the Greater Thumb Conference, had 22 points.

Don Griika, Pat Sweeney and Warren Nugent of Ublity all cleared 5-feet-7 to share first in the high jump and give Ublity the 13 points they needed to win.

Eastern Michigan League 5-19-1971

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jeffhollobaugh
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